

# The Weekly True Democrat.

VOL. 1.

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA, MAY 26, 1905.

NO. 13.

Good Government; Honesty in Public Office; Equal Justice to All--Special Privileges to None.

## IN MEMORY OF

### WM. F. BYNUM

Eloquent Memorial Submitted By  
the House Committee.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 16, 1905.—  
Hon. Albert W. Gilchrist, Speaker of  
the House of Representatives:

Sir—Your committee appointed by  
the House of Representatives to pre-  
pare a memorial upon the life and ser-  
vices of its late Chief Clerk, Dr. Wm.  
Forsyth Bynum, take great pleasure,  
though it be a melancholy one, in per-  
forming the duty assigned us.

Dr. Bynum was born in Mecklenburg  
county, Virginia, July 25, 1825, and  
died at Live Oak, Fla., May 8, 1904.

His father moved to Richmond county,  
Georgia, when Dr. Bynum was a small  
boy, and lived there until his death, in  
1864. His son was educated in Vir-  
ginia, and afterwards graduated at the  
Augusta (Ga.) Medical College. After  
traveling over the Southern States for  
a few years, he entered upon the active  
practice of his profession at Albany,  
Ga.

He was married three times. First,  
to Miss Annie Posey, daughter of Judge  
Wm. Posey of Warwick, Worth County,  
Georgia, to whom three sons were  
born, two of whom survive him, to-wit:  
Hon. J. H. T. Bynum, of Live Oak,  
Fla., and J. W. Bynum, of White  
Springs, Fla.

His second wife was Miss Mary J.  
Brinson, of Suwannee county, Florida,  
and his third wife, who survives him,  
was Miss Fannie P. Anderson of Dan-  
bury, Ga.

In 1864 he moved to Lafayette  
county, Florida, where he practiced his  
profession till the outbreak of the Civil  
War, when he enlisted in Company E,  
Third Florida regiment, and was elected  
second lieutenant, and rose to the rank  
of captain. He was continuously in  
the service until the war closed, being  
severely wounded in 1864 in east Ten-  
nessee.

Upon learning in April, 1865, that the  
army was to be surrendered, he declared  
that he would never sign a parole.  
On communicating his determination to  
the fourteen men, who constituted the  
remnant of his company, they decided  
to a man to stand by him, and he led  
them from North Carolina to Florida by  
avoiding the towns garrisoned by Fed-  
eral troops, and traveling by country  
roads, and all reached home safely,  
where they disbanded.

He moved to Suwannee county and  
settled near the site of the present town  
of Live Oak, before the railroad located  
the station there, and commenced the  
practice of medicine. He was soon told  
by a Federal revenue officer that he  
could not follow his profession unless  
he took the oath of allegiance to the  
United States. He replied: "All right,  
then, I'll throw my saddlebags under  
the bed and quit." This he did and  
turned his attention to farming.

When the town of Live Oak sprang  
up around the railroad station, he en-  
tered into the drug business, which he  
continued until his death. For a few  
years he sold drugs at White Springs.

He was elected chief clerk of the  
House of Representatives at the session  
of 1864, securing a furlough from the  
army that he might serve. He served  
continuously until his death, except one  
term of carpetbag rule, in which he was  
reading clerk, and one term when he  
was incapacitated for performing the  
duties by a severe attack of rheuma-  
tism.

He always took an active part in po-  
litics, and, as he was a good judge of  
men, his services were very valuable to  
his party in the many campaigns, es-  
pecially in those during the reconstruction  
era.

He was a prominent and consistent  
member of the Baptist denomination  
for fifty years.

As chief clerk of the House of Repre-  
sentatives he was useful and efficient,  
having performed the duties until they  
were as familiar as the simplest duties  
of everyday life. His popularity was  
so great that he seldom had an opponent  
for the office, and it was regarded as a  
sinecure.

As a physician he was prompt, skill-  
ful and sympathetic, and won the love  
and confidence of his patients.

As a druggist, careful and painstaking;  
as a neighbor, kind and accommo-  
dating, and the family relations true as  
husband and father.

In his intercourse with others, as a  
man he was urbane and courteous,  
which was the secret of his popularity.

He had a clear, comprehensive mind,  
which was well stored with a vast fund  
of useful knowledge, which had been  
culled from a vast fund of useful knowl-  
edge, which had been culled from a var-  
ied and extensive course of reading,  
both of books and of the leading period-  
icals of the day. In short, he belonged  
not to the large class of men who fol-  
low, but was a born leader of men.

Dr. Bynum was a very enthusiastic  
Mason, and hardly ever missed a meet-  
ing of the lodge, filling all the positions

up to the Grand Master of the State.

Be it therefore resolved by the House of  
Representatives, That we keenly feel  
the loss of one who for a long period  
filled the responsible position of chief  
clerk, and that we deeply deplore his  
death, and hereby express our appreci-  
ation of his high character and faithful  
service, and extend to his bereaved  
family our heartfelt sympathy in their  
grief.

Resolved further, That a copy of this  
memorial and resolution be spread upon  
the Journal of the House, a copy fur-  
nished to his family, and that the State  
press be requested to publish this me-  
morial and resolutions.

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. Fillingim,  
G. W. Crawford,  
J. M. Hall,  
Committee.

### The Buckman Bill.

The vote by which the "Buckman  
Bill," abolishing most of the State in-  
stitutions of higher learning, passed the  
House was as follows:

Mr. Speaker, Baker, Blanton of Mad-  
ison, Blanton of Taylor, Bradshaw,  
Brown, Buckman, Campbell, Carleton,  
Cobb, Crawford, Dorman, Girardeau,  
Hall, Harvell, Johnston, Kilgore, King,  
Kirkland, Knight, Knowles, Leggett,  
Matthews, Melton, Noble, Peaden, Sis-  
trunk, Smith of Hamilton, Smith of  
Volusia, Sparkman, Sprague, Wart-  
mann, Wilson of Hernando, Wilson of  
Lee: Yeas—35.

Avery, Carter, Cornwell, DuPont,  
Fillingim, Herndon, Jewell, Julian,  
McCallum, Owen, Persons, Pirrong,  
Rawls, Robison, Sledge, Stephens, Tay-  
lor of Gadsden, Taylor of Hillsborough,  
Tillman, Watson, Wells, Williams:  
Nays—22.

The bill came up in the Senate on  
Thursday as a special order, and Sena-  
tor Trammell offered as a substitute a  
bill with the following title:

A bill to be entitled an act to abolish  
the Boards of Trustees and Boards of  
Managers of the several State institu-  
tions for higher education and of the  
Institute for Blind, Deaf and Dumb; to  
declare the assets and property of said  
several institutes for higher education  
and the property for the Institute for  
the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, the property  
of the State of Florida, and to vest the  
title to the same in the State Board of  
Education; providing for the convey-  
ance of said property and assets to the  
said State Board of Education; requir-  
ing an accounting and report from said  
Boards of Trustees and auditing of the  
same; creating and providing for a  
Board of Control, and prescribing its  
duties, powers and privileges; granting  
certain powers and privileges to the  
State Board of Education and prescrib-  
ing certain duties for said board; regu-  
lating the qualification of students to  
be entered in said institutions; provid-  
ing an appropriation for said institu-  
tions for their maintenance and support  
for two years and for carrying out the  
provisions of this act; designating the  
officer to keep and have possession of  
said funds now or hereafter provided  
for said institutions; prescribing the  
mode and manner to regulate the pay-  
ing out of said funds; providing that  
the said Board of Control make report  
and recommendations to the next Leg-  
islature as to the best system of higher  
education; prescribing the duties of  
said Board of Control, the State Board  
of Education, State Treasurer, State  
Auditor, and Comptroller, in regard to  
the affairs of said institutions; and to  
repeal all laws in conflict with this act.

The substitute was received and made  
a special order for to day, when it was  
debated at length; motion to adopt it  
was defeated by a vote of 17 to 11, and  
the consideration of the bill on second  
reading as it came from the House was  
resumed all amendments voted down  
and the bill passed.

### A Governor's Mansion.

The House bill to provide for a gov-  
ernor's mansion came up in the Senate  
on Wednesday, on the report of the  
Senate committee on appropriations,  
which offered what was practically a  
substitute, with a new title; which was  
adopted, and on Thursday the Senate  
passed the bill by a vote of 15 to 12.

The bill provides for a "Governor's  
Mansion Commission," composed of  
the Governor, the Comptroller and three  
citizens of the State, chosen from dif-  
ferent counties and appointed by the  
Governor, whose duty it will be to  
select and acquire a suitable site, select  
and approve plans, contract for the  
erection of the building, etc.

The use of Jackson square is contem-  
plated, provided that a clear title to  
the same shall be vested in the State  
and the commission shall approve it as  
a site.

The bill appropriates \$25,000 for the  
execution of its purposes (including the  
erection of all necessary outhouses,  
fences, etc., and the complete furnish-  
ing of the building), and provides that  
if Jackson square or other public prop-  
erty should not be selected as a site, no  
portion of the sum appropriated shall  
be used until a suitable site shall have  
been provided, donated and conveyed,  
to be used for such purpose.

The House concurred in the Senate  
amendments and the bill was ordered  
enrolled.

## SIMPLE JUSTICE—NOTHING MORE.

From the Times-Union:  
The University of Florida and the  
people of Lake City, where the institu-  
tion is located, need fear nothing from  
anybody who tells the truth. Truth is  
mighty—misrepresentation and distorted  
facts will fall flat before it. Truth  
and the facts sustaining it will be forth-  
coming, backed by evidence that can-  
not be successfully disputed, even by a  
committee blind to what virtue the in-  
stitution may have and seeing nothing  
but shortcomings and faults.

The visiting committee of the House  
and Senate submitted to the Legisla-  
ture a report on the University of  
Florida contains gross misrepresenta-  
tions and a most thoughtless disregard  
of facts that bordered on gross igno-  
rance of the institution they were  
charged to examine for the people of  
Florida. Evidence will be produced  
later to sustain this statement. Judg-  
ing from the things they did not see, it  
is a natural supposition that the com-  
mittee went there with bias and prej-  
udice of some kind and the statements  
made as to conditions displayed a strange  
purliness, to say the least. Though,  
in justice to these gentlemen, it is pos-  
sible that they were the victims of  
some jaundiced individual, who is al-  
ways on hand about such institutions  
ready to "do" somebody, some individ-  
ual who has cunning in plausibility, but  
who is not big enough to rise above petty  
spite or contentious twaddle, and per-  
haps they fell into the society of evil  
winners of the university elsewhere.  
Be this as it may, their document is  
now a part of the living archives of  
the State, which they cannot rub out,  
no matter what proof is offered to con-  
vince as to the error of their judgment  
of the fallacies of their reasoning.

For illustration: The committee  
states that the walls of a certain build-  
ing are crumbling. The building con-  
tains about 40,000 square feet of plaster-  
ing. Not more than 10 square feet  
on this has fallen.

Another building is mentioned as be-  
ing in a dilapidated condition. Some  
of the stucco has fallen off; \$300 will re-  
place it. The building is one of the  
most substantial and thoroughly con-  
structed ones anywhere, and in point  
of architecture, one of the most strik-  
ing Oriental types on this continent.

A statement regarding another build-  
ing is to the effect that it was not used  
for the purposes intended by the Legis-  
lature, and that the architect was never  
informed as to the proposed uses of the  
building. This is absolutely untrue.

Another statement that the funds of  
of the experiment station were imper-  
fectly applied and that the State was go-  
ing to be deprived of these funds, is  
absolutely untrue, as the department at  
Washington will attest, and the expert  
examiners have made reports as to the  
exact and careful application of all  
funds.

These are but a few of the contradic-  
tory and illogical misrepresentations  
that have been formally presented to  
the Florida Legislature.

There were many things the commit-  
tee did not see or did not want to see.

The committee made no investigation  
whatever as to the great work done  
that has saved Florida more than the  
total cost of the entire university.

The committee did not inquire as to  
the experiments carried on by some of  
the best equipped experts in this coun-  
try today. No investigation was made  
as to field and laboratory work. Noth-  
ing whatever as to the vast work of  
the veterinary department and certain  
discoveries that will save Florida hun-  
dreds of thousands of dollars in stock-  
raising. The committee found out  
nothing regarding the investigation of  
plant life and entomology, the saving  
of whole sections from destructive in-  
sects—nothing whatever as to extensive  
work regarding the orange, the pine-  
apple, the tomato and the potato,  
grasses, hay and field products. The  
committee did not notice the great pro-  
gress made in mechanical arts—it  
could not see the splendid skill of the  
boys as told in the products of shop and  
sketch room.

The committee could not hear what  
the people of Lake City had to say—we  
mean 90 per cent. of the people, who  
have lived within sight of the institu-  
tion since its establishment—viz: that  
the institution is in better condition  
now than ever in its history. If you  
do not believe this, gentlemen of the  
committee, go and ask this 90 per cent.

It was rather a peculiar coincidence  
that on the Monday following the visit  
of the committee an inspector of the  
War Department visited the university.  
He made a report to the Secretary of  
War that he found everything in a most  
excellent condition. Surely he had  
nobody to punish or to reward.

Such are the facts in connection with  
this report. We feel confident that the  
Legislature will right the flagrant  
wrong and injury done this institution,  
and do justice where injustice has been  
done.

Florida needs a district attorney of  
the same caliber as Governor Folk,  
of Missouri, who taught the bootlickers  
of that State that bootlicking was bad pol-  
itics, and who by his fearless and per-  
sistent work made a name for himself  
throughout the land, and has been re-  
warded by the governorship of his  
State.

## Thursday's Proceedings.

Among the important measures dis-  
posed of on Thursday were the follow-  
ing:

The bill to prohibit the employment  
of special counsels came up in the House  
on Thursday, and Mr. Persons offered a  
substitute, providing for the appoint-  
ment of an assistant to the Attorney-  
General, which was adopted, but almost  
immediately postponed indefinitely.

Representative Avery's excellent bill  
to regulate the business of lending  
money on household furniture, etc.,  
failed in the House on Thursday by a  
vote of 22 to 31. There was a strong  
lobby against it, and those interested in  
this business were understood to be  
prepared to go to any length to defeat  
the bill. Its defeat was a calamity to  
a large number of poor people who are  
the victims of money-lenders.

The Everglade drainage bill, and the  
joint resolution providing for a change  
in the Constitution, relating to draining  
districts, passed both houses of the  
Legislature.

Senator Neel's bill for the establish-  
ment of the county of Bloxham was in-  
definitely postponed in the House.

The House on Thursday indefinitely  
postponed the Senate bill requiring  
county commissioners to publish a bud-  
get, etc.

The joint committee on statute re-  
vision reported in favor of the adoption  
of the work of the revision commission  
and presented a bill to carry the re-  
vision into effect. The bill was passed  
in the Senate and in the House was laid  
on the table subject to call.

## More Investigation.

The troubles of the Jennings admin-  
istration appear to have barely begun.  
In the House of Representatives on  
Tuesday Mr. Kirkland, of Lake, intro-  
duced the following resolution, which  
was promptly adopted:

Whereas, it is reported on good  
authority that the lessees of the State  
convicts for the four years ending De-  
cember 31, 1905, did for a portion of  
the time, fail to pay the pro rata part  
of the contract price per capita on all  
or any convicts while confined in the  
Hospital located near Ocala, such pro-  
rata being deducted on account of the  
convict or convicts being confined in the  
said Hospital; and

Whereas, the contract between the  
lessees and the State of Florida pro-  
vides "That the lessees shall at all  
times during said period of four years  
without expense or cost or liability on  
the part of said State or any officer or  
any county or officer thereof maintain all  
such persons received and kept by them  
sentenced as aforesaid and provide cus-  
tody, maintenance and support for  
them and each of them, and provide  
and furnish all and every of such per-  
sons comfortable quarters and lodging,  
good and comfortable clothing, includ-  
ing bedding and blankets, wholesome  
food, and when any of them are sick  
and disabled, necessary medicines and  
medical attendance and proper care,  
and shall employ and keep a physician  
or Doctor of Medicine of skill and ex-  
perience during said period of four  
years to visit and attend on, examine,  
treat and care for and watch over all  
and each of such persons received and  
kept by them and will secure his regu-  
lar attention to examination, treatment  
and care of them as is necessary, free  
of all costs of any kind to the State of  
Florida or any of its officers. It is  
covenanted and agreed by the parties  
hereto that said lessees are to pay for  
the hire of said State prisoners at the  
rate of \$151.50 per annum per capita,  
for all convicts or State prisoners as-  
signed, dating from the arrival at the  
State prison. No deduction or allow-  
ance of said sum to be allowed on ac-  
count of sickness, except death, pardon  
or release from prison by order of court  
of competent jurisdiction."

Therefore be it resolved by the House  
of Representatives, 1st. That the Com-  
mittee on State Institutions be directed  
to inquire into this matter and report  
at once their findings.

2nd. If this report be true, then how  
many convicts have been confined in  
said hospital and how long.

3rd. How much has been deducted  
from contract price per capita per an-  
num on account of convicts confined in  
Hospital.

4th. Whether or not the lessees were  
given credit for any or all escaped con-  
victs, and, if so, how much.

There was a tremendous noise made  
over the leasing of the convicts for  
\$151.50 per head, but no one supposed  
that there was any string to it.

## Double Daily Service Between Tal- lahassee and St. Marks.

Commencing Sunday, May 28th, the  
Seaboard Air Line will operate excur-  
sion trains between Tallahassee and St.  
Marks, making a double daily service  
as follows:

Leave Tallahassee, ..	7.00 a. m.
Arrive St. Marks, ..	8.30 a. m.
Leave St. Marks, ..	8.30 a. m.
Arrive Tallahassee, ..	10.00 a. m.
Leave Tallahassee, ..	4.30 p. m.
Arrive St. Marks, ..	6.00 p. m.
Leave St. Marks, ..	6.00 p. m.
Arrive Tallahassee, ..	7.30 p. m.

Round trip St. Marks and return, 90  
cents. F. F. WOODWARD,  
Agent S. A. L.

## HOUSE ADOPTS HOSPITAL REPORT.

Noble's Supplementary Investigating  
Committee at Work.

Quite a commotion occurred in the  
House of Representatives on Monday,  
when Speaker Gilchrist left his place  
and took the floor to denounce the re-  
port of the insane hospital investigat-  
ing committee. The immediate oc-  
casion was the reading of a telegram  
addressed to the Speaker by some fe-  
male nurses employed at the hospital,  
who complained that the committee's  
report reflected upon their characters.

Strangely enough the only words in  
the report which could by the remotest  
possibility be tortured into a reflection  
upon the authors of the telegraphic  
protest were the following: "The very  
atmosphere of the institution has been  
scented with vice and immorality to the  
extent that even the inmates have  
begged and pleaded for release on account  
of it. And citizens living near-by have  
felt outraged by it."

Note the fact that the committee did  
not speak of the present time, but of  
the past—it says "have been," not  
"is." Nor does it indicate any class or  
any individual or groups of individuals,  
employed or connected with the institu-  
tion, to whom its remarks apply.  
The "vice and immorality" to which  
the committee refers may have been  
practiced by employees far inferior in  
position to the nurses, male or female,  
or by persons far higher up than the  
nurses and connected with the official  
administration of the institution.

The House evidently took this view  
of it, for the telegram was not admit-  
ted to a place in the pages of the jour-  
nal.

The debate was appounded upon a  
motion to consider the report, and  
Speaker Gilchrist vehemently opposed  
its adoption, arguing that such action  
would stigmatize worthy and defense-  
less women employed at the hospital,  
and that the evidence reported was  
weak and meagre, and did not sustain  
the findings of the committee. This  
brought up the fact that the committee  
had taken testimony which it referred  
to as being "of such a character that it  
would not do to put in public print;"  
and the imminent discussion of the  
same caused the retirement of ladies  
who were in the hall.

The debate proceeded for some time,  
members of the committee and others  
ably defending its position, while a few  
opposed the adoption of the report.  
Upon a vote being taken, the report was  
adopted by the following vote:

Yeas—Baker, Bradshaw, Brown,  
Buckman, Carter, Carleton, Cobb, Corn-  
well, Crawford, Dorman, DuPont, Du-  
val, Fillingim, Floyd, Girardeau, Har-  
vell, Hall, Herndon, Johnston, Julian,  
Kilgore, Kirkland, Knight, Knowles,  
McCallum, McElroy, Matthews, Melton,  
Noble, Owen, Paul, Peaden, Persons,  
Pirrong, Roberts, Robison, Rosborough,  
Sistrunk, Sledge, Smith of Hamilton,  
Smith of Volusia, Sparkman, Sprague,  
Stephens, Taylor of Gadsden, Taylor of  
Hillsborough, Tillman, Watson, Wells,  
Wilson of Jackson—52.

Nays—Mr. Speaker, Blanton of Mad-  
ison, Blanton of Taylor, Bryan, Camp-  
bell, Jewell, Rawls, Williams, Wilson  
of Hernando, Wilson of Lee—10.

Some apparently ardent admirers of  
the genial Speaker, who have been in-  
dustriously nursing an incipient boom-  
let for him for the next gubernatorial  
vacancy, will be sadly chagrined at the  
result of his attempt to discredit the  
work of one of his own committees, and,  
incidentally, to shield from further in-  
vestigation and just punishment (if  
found guilty) those who are believed to  
be responsible for a large part of the  
crookedness at the hospital reported by  
the committee; while many more of  
Gen. Gilchrist's real friends will pro-  
foundly and sincerely regret that he  
should have received, publicly, such a  
marked and emphatic rebuke from a  
body over which he was chosen to pre-  
side under such flattering auspices at  
the beginning of the session.

The House committee appointed under  
the resolution of Mr. Noble, of Lake,  
"to investigate certain persons and  
matters in connection" with the state  
of affairs disclosed by the investigating  
committee's report, held a meeting on  
Wednesday and proceeded to the hos-  
pital to pursue its investigations. The  
committee was enlarged to five mem-  
bers, viz: Mr. Noble, of Lake, chair-  
man; Messrs. Wilson of Hernando,  
Carleton of Nassau, Harvell of Santa  
Rosa, and King of Dade.

Look out for coupon contest at Cap-  
ital City Pharmacy. Further particu-  
lars of it next week.

The lecture which was to have been  
given in the Representative Hall on  
Sunday afternoon will be given at the  
opera house, Sunday, at 4:30 p. m.  
The lecturer is Rev. M. A. Cuddy.

Look out for coupon contest at Cap-  
ital City Pharmacy. Further particu-  
lars next week.